

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 02881 091154Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /098 W
-----091829Z 094165 /45

R 091016Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3893
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2881

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, YO, SU
SUBJ: YUGOSLAV MEDIATION EFFORT IN ETHIOPIA

REF: BELGRADE 2823

SUMMARY: YUGOSLAV EMBASSY COUNSELOR VUKOTIC CONFIRMED
HERE THAT JOISOV MEDIATION MISSION TO EGYPT, SUDAN, AND
ETHIOPIA SERVED LITTLE PURPOSE, OTHER THAN TO BRING
YUGOSLAV CONCERN OVER EAST AFRICAN TENSION TO ATTENTION
OF DISPUTING COUNTRIES. TONE OF SOURCE'S COMMENTS INDI-
CATED THAT THIS CONCERN ALSO RELATED TO DRIFT OF ETHIOPIA
TOWARDS SOVIETS AND AWAY FROM FORMER NONALIGNED POSTURE.
END SUMMARY.

1. DURING MAY 6 MEETING WITH YUGOSLAV COUNSELOR VUKOTIC,
EMBOFF ASKED WHETHER AMHARIC NEWS REPORT THAT MESSAGE
"EXPRESSED (TITO'S) CONCERN OVER IMPERLIAS MACH-
NATIONS TO DIVIDE AFRICAN COUNTRIES" DID NOT TAKE
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ETHIOPIAN SIDE TOO OBVIOUSLY, THEREBY FORFEITING
ANY HOPE OF YUGOSLAVIA'S SERVING AS GENUINE MEDIATOR.
SOURCE ALLEGED NEWS QUOTE WAS INACCURATE REFLECTION
OF ACTUAL TEXT, WHICH DID NOT HAVE ONLY ERITREAN
SECESSIONIST PROBLEM IN MIND, BUT ALSO FACT THAT
GREAT POWER INVOLVEMENT WITH ONE AFRICAN COUNTRY OR
ANOTHER WAS CAUSING DIVISION BETWEEN COUNTRIES.

2. VUKOTIC, WHO IS NEW TO ADDIS, SPECULATED WHETHER ETHIOPIANS HAD REALLY OPTED FOR SOVIET BRAND OF COMMUNISM OR WERE SIMPLY MAKING NICE NOISES IN THAT DIRECTION BECAUSE US HAD ABANDONED FIELD AND EPMG NEEDED URGENT HELP FROM SOMEWHERE. EMBOFF POINTED OUT HOW US, DESPITE DOMESTIC AND CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES AND CONCERNS OVER MORE DUBIOUS ASPECTS OF REVOLUTION, HAD SCRUPULOUSLY MAINTAINED AS MUCH OF PREVIOUS RELATIONSHIP AS EPMG HAD SHOWN INTEREST IN. SOURCE PRESSED FURTHER ON US PERCEPTIONS OF ETHIO-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP AND READILY ACQUIESCED TO COMMENT THAT EPMG SEEMED TO BE DEPARTING FROM ITS INITIAL COURSE OF ATTEMPTING TO REDUCE ITS DEPENDENCE ON ANY ONE COUNTRY AND TO DIVERSIFY ITS COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY DEALINGS AMONG MANY SUPPLIERS.

3. COMMENT: IN PAST YUGOSLAVS HERE HAVE SHOWN LITTLE INTEREST IN EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH OUR EMBASSY. THIS TIME, EMBOFF'S INITIATIVE WAS WELCOMED, AND VUKOTIC PROPOSED FREQUENT SIMILAR TALKS IN FUTURE, PERHAPS REFLECTING SOME YUGOSLAV UNEASE OVER CURRENT DRIFT IN COUNTRY WITH WHICH YUGOSLAVIA AND TITO HAVE ENJOYED CLOSE TIES SINCE DAYS OF EMPEROR. END COMMENT.
MALIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS02881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770162-1210
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770580/aaaacrji.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 20954698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BELGRADE 2823
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2604648
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: YUGOSLAV MEDIATION EFFORT IN ETHIOPIA
TAGS: PFOR, ET, YO, SU, UR, (VUKOTIC)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/20954698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009